

In re: Chockalingam Arunachalam

Filed: August 30, 2001

Serial No.: 09/943,587

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REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, 9, and 19 are the independent claims. Claims 1, 8, 9, and 19 have been amended by this amendment.

Claims Rejection - 35 USC §102(e)

Claims 1-15 and 19 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,309,504 to Morganstein (hereinafter "Morganstein"). Claims 1, 8, 9, and 19 are the independent claims, and the remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1, 8, 9, or 19.

The Applicant traverses the rejection and respectfully requests reconsideration. Applicant respectfully submits that Morganstein does not teach each and every element of the present invention. The Examiner states that "'said IVR not having an ANI', it is inherent that the IVR taught by Morganstein does not have an ANI. To one skilled in the art, ANI refers to an identification of a caller or a calling device used by a caller. The IVR as taught by Morganstein is not a caller nor is a calling

device used by a caller." (Office Action, dated October 27, 2003, page 3).

The Applicant, now claims, among other things, systems and methods having the limitation of "populating an automatic number identifier (ANI) for each outside call without an associated ANI, said populated ANI includes a telephone number or extension of a port that received the telephone signal handled by said IVR and associating said ANI with each outside call". (Quoting claim 1, however, all of the independent claims (i.e., claims 1, 8, 9, and 19) have very similar limitations).

In support of this limitation, Applicant's specification reads: "[i]n the event that there is no ANI with the incoming call, the IVR preferably populates the ANI for the call with the phone number and/or extension associated with the port on which the incoming call was received. Thereafter, the data for the call will be matched to the ANI for the port on the IVR on which the call was originally received." (Specification, Page 12, Paragraph 0031). Further, the Applicant's specification reads that to "enable the IVR to populate the ANI for the call, the IVR preferably maintains a mapping of the port numbers to phone numbers and/or extensions." (Id.). It is specifically this

limitation that the Applicant claims as "populating an automatic number identifier (ANI) for each outside call without an associated ANI, said populated ANI includes a telephone number or extension of a port that received the telephone signal handled by said IVR and associating said ANI with each outside call". (See, e.g., Claim 1).

Morganstein does not teach a integrating a non-ANI into an ANI system. Specifically, Morganstein does not teach, among other things, the quoted limitations above, which is found in the Applicant's independent claims. Because Morganstein does not teach or disclose the claimed language, the rejection is improper.

Anticipation under 35 USC §102 requires that a reference teach each and every aspect of the claimed invention. (M.P.E.P. §2131.)

Applicant respectfully submits that Morganstein does not teach each and every element of the present invention, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims Rejection - 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 16-18 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morganstein as applied to claim 5 above, and in view of United States Patent No. 6,301,480 to Kennedy et al.

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(hereinafter "Kennedy et al.").

Claims 16-18 depend indirectly from claim 9, and claim 9 has been distinguished above. The arguments with respect to claim 9 above are hereby incorporated here by reference with respect to claims 16-18. Applicant believes that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and requests early and favorable action on the merits. The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's Attorney of Record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 27, 2004